

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 14146 191613Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 COME-00
BIB-01 HA-05 ACDA-12 /077 W
-----096382 191617Z /43

O 191616Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7968

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 14146

BONN ALSO FOR US DEL CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, EEC, SHUM, UR, BE

SUBJECT: BILATERAL APPROACHES ON SOVIET TRIALS:

BELGIAN RESPONSE

REF: A) STATE 179532, B) BRUSSELS 13946

1. WE MET JULY 18 WITH BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
DIRECTOR FOR EAST-WEST AND CSCE AFFAIRS (AMBASSADOR
RENE LION) AND MADE APPROACH ON SOVIET TRIALS ALONG
LINES REFTEL A. AMBASSADOR LION TOLD US THAT BELGIAN
GOVERNMENT HAD RESPONDED BOTH PUBLICLY AND DIPLOMATICALLY
IN EXPRESSING ITS EXTREME DISPLEASURE OVER TRIALS.
HE SAID PUBLIC RESPONSES INCLUDED BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER
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SIMONET'S PUBLIC STATEMENT AND THE BELGIAN CHAMBER OF
DEPUTIES' UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION (REFTEL B).

2. ON THE BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC FRONT, AMBASSADOR LION
SAID THAT HE CALLED IN THE SOVIET DCM JULY 10 AND
EXPRESSED BELGIAN DISPLEASURE. FOLLOWING THAT, FOREIGN
MINISTER SIMONET SOUGHT TO CALL IN THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR

TO DO THE SAME. TH SOVIET AMBASSADOR WAS OUT OF TOWN FOR A NUMBER OF DAYS AND FINALLY CHEF DE CABINET ALFRED CAHEN WAS ABLE TO REACH THE AMBASSADOR BY PHONE JULY 12 AND EXPRESS BELGIAN DISPLEASURE.
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3. ON THE MULTILATERAL DIPLOMATIC FRONT, AMBASSADOR LION SAID THAT BELGIUM WAS IN THE CHAIR JULY 11 AT THE BONN CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM AND ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH THE STRONG U.K. STATEMENT CRITICIZING THE SOVIET TRIALS.

4. HE SAID THAT THE EC-NINE HAVE APPROVED THE TEXT OF A JOINT COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNING THE TRIALS, AND THAT HE EXPECTED THAT TEXT TO BE MADE PUBLIC BY THE FRG PRESIDENCY SHORTLY. MOREOVER, HE SAID THAT BELGIUM HAS ASKED THAT THE SOVIET TRIALS BE INSCRIBED AS AN AGENDA ITEM FOR NEXT WEEK'S EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S MEETING IN BONN. AMBASSADOR LION SAID THAT HE ALSO EXPECTED THE ALLIES TO DISCUSS THE TRIALS IN APPROPRIATE NATO FORA.

5. IN SHORT, HE SAID, HE SAW "NO CHANCE THAT THE SOVIET UNION MISSED THE MESSAGE." CHAMBERS

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